

## Cath Petroskey - HB 4265 & 4266

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**To:** <CharlesBrunner@house.mi.gov>, <PhilCavanagh@house.mi.gov>, <HughCrawfor...>  
**Date:** 2/20/2011 4:50 PM  
**Subject:** HB 4265 & 4266  
**CC:** <cpetros@house.mi.gov>  
**Attachments:** HB 4265-66 Comment MichBiomass.pdf

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Dear House Energy & Technology Committee members:

I write today asking that you OPPOSE HB 4265 and HB 4266, which will hinder, not help, renewable energy.

While landfills play a role in solid waste management, diverting materials from existing markets to landfills specifically for energy production is not good policy.

Markets for yard clippings – which includes woody biomass – already exist. Genesee Power Station in Flint uses 200,000 of “urban” wood waste to provide electricity for 35,000 homes – half of that coming from landscape debris and storm clean up that would be diverted to landfills under these bills. Non-wood yard clippings feed a robust composting industry.

Over time, organic materials in landfills produce methane gas. In landfills with collection system, half, at best, is captured and used. The rest escapes to the atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

While it makes sense to put landfill gas to a higher value use, it does not make sense to landfill organic materials with existing higher value uses just so a portion of it can be converted to energy.

Michigan Biomass urges you to oppose HB 4265 and HB 4266 because they will negatively impact jobs and renewable energy production.

Please see the attached document for more details.

Thanks you.

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